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AND

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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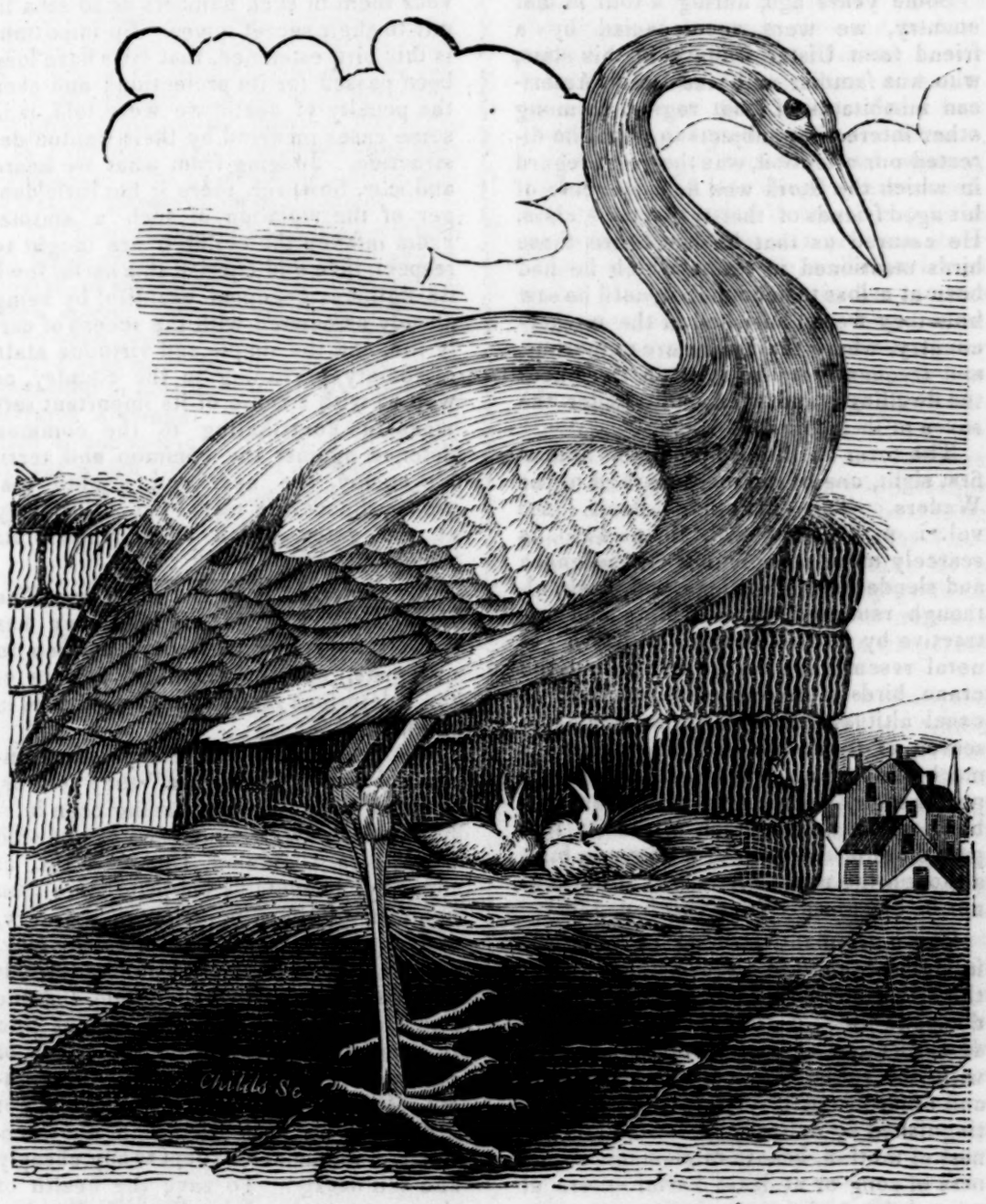


THE STORK.

This is a bird of which we read, but with which we have very little opportunity to become acquainted in any other manner in our own country. It makes an interesting figure where it is mentioned in the Scriptures: but when an American traveller visits Holland, he discovers why it is regarded with peculiar interest by some nations, and particularly the Dutch.

Some years ago, during a tour in that country, we were accompanied by a friend from Ulster County in this state, who was familiar with the Dutch-American inhabitants of that region. Among other interesting subjects to which he directed our attention, was the great regard in which the Stork was held by some of his aged friends of that respectable class. He assured us that he had heard these birds mentioned in terms which he had been at a loss to account for, until he saw how they were cherished in the mother-country, where their nests are numerous, and frequently to be seen on trees near the dwellings, and even built under the eaves of their thatched roofs.

The form of this bird proclaims him, at first sight, one of the most marked of the Waders. The Flamingo itself (see vol. i. p. 296, and vol. ii. p. 444), is scarcely more conspicuous for the length and slenderness of its legs and neck, although rendered more striking and attractive by its flame-color. It has a general resembance to the heron and the crane, birds of its own class, while in its usual altitudes in walking or wading in search of food: but in flying it avoids much of their awkward and strained appearance, by drawing in, or rather doubling up its neck, which gives its fore part more of the form of a common bird, although the unseemly length of leg cannot be disguised. (See vol. i. p. 136.)

There are many striking peculiarities in Holland, and not a few of these attract the attention of an American traveller in domestic life. Among these is the semi-domestication of the stork. Compared with the robin, wren, swallow, marten, and other of our favorites, which are distinguished by delicacy of form, gracefulness of motion, beauty of plumage, sweetness of song or at least harml ssness of aspect, the stork is an uninteresting, awkward and repulsive object. But the Hollanders have a good reason to overcome the antipathy to it which seems natural, and to make it their prime favorite. The very existence of a large part of the nation is in a degree dependant on this fowl. The little aquatic animals which inhabit the dykes that keep out the sea, partially undermine those immense earthen mounds, and prepare the way for the surges of the sea to sweep them away. But these dangerous little creatures are the favorite food of the storks, which devour them in such numbers as to set a limit to their secret mines. So important is this bird esteemed, that laws have long been passed for its protection; and even the penalty of death, we were told, is in some cases incurred by their wanton destruction. Judging from what we heard and saw, however, there is but little danger of the violation of such a statute. From infancy the children are taught to respect, love and cherish this useful fowl, its ugliness becomes beautiful by being closely associated with the scenes of early life, and the simple and virtuous state of society prevailing in the country, as well as with a sense of its important services in contributing to the common defence against the common and terrible enemy, the near and mighty sea, whose thundering waves knock furiously at the gates which alone restrain its violence.

Spurious Drugs in the Market.—The New York College of Pharmacy has found it necessary to issue a caution to druggists, warning them to beware of the deleterious stuffs sold as medicines in the market.

"A quantity of base composition, under the name of blue pills," they tell us, "is now in the market, having been lately imported by, or consigned to and sold by, Messrs. Cumming, Dodge & Co., of this city. It contains but little more than one-fifth of the proportion of mercury, and is principally made up of earthy clay, soluble saccharine matter and water. It may not be generally understood, that the importation of drugs and medicines into this conntry, is chiefly in the hands of commission merchants, mostly foreigners, (German and French,) who are not druggists, by profession, and know nothing of medicines, except to buy cheaply and sell dearly. To save the health of the country the New York College of Pharmacy have resolved to ask the co-operation of the other Colleges of Pharmacy, and all the medical institutions and

practioners, throughout the Union, in an application to Congress for a law, declaring that all pharmaceutical preparations and chemicals, which shall be found upon careful examination to be spurious, shall be confiscated and destroyed. The Secretary of the Treasury has been requested to exert all his power to stop or check the importation."—Sel.

Universal Tendency to Intemperance.—The Caffer with his "pombie;" the Nubian with his "bouza;" and the Yankee with his "potatoe whiskey;" the inhabitant of Kamschatka, with his 'raka' of grass; of Otaheite with the root of the 'tee;' of Formosa with drink prepared from rice: all furnish proofs of the universality of the love of stimulants.

We have daily evidence that strength of mind, great acquirements, force of character, or native good sense, will not ensure safety, without entire abstinence. The habit produces a diseased structure, which ever cries, give! give! and while persisted in nothing can satisfy these unnatural cravings. Surely the constitution of our species involves us in certain duties which we may not neglect.

I would now point out some of the objects to be accomplished.

1. The temperance cause is to be revived.

The people must return again to the field of moral effort; and the press blow the trumpet to arouse and encourage; and the pulpit with its mighty moral power come up as beforetime to the rescue.

Let the different divisions of the temperance forces unite in one solid phalanx. Let the old and tried friends of temperance, who have borne the heat and burden of the day, hold on their way, and wax stronger and stronger. Let the true hearted Washingtonians, while they progress in their great and good work of raising the fallen, not lose sight of the unity of the cause, nor the importance of their own department of the enterprise. Let those connected with modern organizations, whose beneficial features furnish another argument for sobriety, not forget the great principle which is the basis of their institution in zeal for its peculiar characteristics. "Let magistrates and professional men stand firm, yielding to no dictate of apparent self-interest or momentary clamor."

2. We need restrictive legislation.

It is quite true that when temperance principles everywhere prevail, the sale of intoxicating drinks will cease. In the meanwhile, we require laws to seal up the fountains of intemperance, and thereby assist in procuring a temperate public sentiment. Our law-makers should not license men to cater for a depraved appetite, entrap the unwary, and furnish that solvent which so greedily absorbs the wages of the mechanic—and the hard earned pittance which a starving family require. Every consideration of humanity, of national prosperity, of the best good of the governed, requires reform.

If the price of the bodies and souls of men is received into the government coffers to be disbursed in erecting prisons and almshouses, it is no more than sheer justice at least, that the tax be so levied as to oblige those who make paupers themselves to sustain them. Legislation, however, much in advance of a sustaining public sentiment, serves but to arouse the passions of men and produce disastrous reactions.—Sel.

The Vampire Bat of Brazil.—There is an enemy, who sometimes approaches even a hammock and takes a tribute from the unconscious sleeper; this is the Vampire Bat." During the day, they sleep in the tiles of the roof, but they go forth at sunset. Some of the largest measure upwards of two feet across the wings, but generally they are smaller.

Of their fondness for human blood, and especially that particular portion which constitutes the animus of the great toe, from personal experience, I am unable to vouch; but every one in the country is confident of it; and a number of gentlemen at different times assured us, that they themselves had been phlebotomized in that manner, nor knew of the operation, until a bloody hammock offered indubitable evidence. They spoke of it as a slight affair; and probably the little blood that is extracted is rarely an injury. If the foot is covered there is no danger, or if a light is kept burning in the room; and often we have slept unharmed thus guarded, when bats were flitting about and squeaking the night long. Cattle and horses are not so easily protected; and a wound once made, the bat returns to it every night, until the proper precautions are taken, or the animal is killed by the loss of blood.—Sel.

Volcanic Wonders of the Azores.

The following is a very interesting description of that remarkable little cluster of islands, whose solitary position, nearly in the middle of the vast Atlantic Ocean, so strongly arrests the attention and excites the curiosity even of the most hasty observer of the map. We copy it from a Chillicothe paper. So few travellers ever visit them, and so few ships ever pass near them, that the public hear their names only occasionally, and but few readers have any very particular knowledge of them.

The Azores, or Western Islands, lie about one thousand miles west of Spain, and were the first link in the grand chain of Western discoveries commenced in the fifteenth century.

The history of the Azores is enveloped in obscurity. We are informed that about the middle of the fifteenth century, they were discovered by Joshua Von Berg, of Bruges, who, in a voyage to Lisbon, was, by stress of weather driven to them. On his arrival in Lisbon, he boasted of his discovery, upon which the Portuguese at once set sail, took possession, and called them the Azore or Hawk Islands. The settlers were a pacific race, who cultivated the soil, bartered its produce with traders from Lisbon, and lived in harmony and peace, until in a moment of ambition Spain pounced upon them, and overrunning the place with soldiers, reduced the Portuguese to a state of slavery. Shortly, however, the Azores became the refuge of the Spaniards of Moorish extraction, under whose influence civilization progressed, opulence took the place of poverty, and seminaries of learning became numerous. Driven out, however, on the reaccession of the Portuguese power, the islands without these energetic colonists relapsed into gloom and despondency, with a consumptive population and a corrupt government—a state of things which has not much varied to the present day. With this brief historical outline we pass to the wonders of art and nature.

The first appearance of the Island of St. Michael, as it greets the eye, is singular. The beach seems like ramified pillars of basalt, the trees crowning it, from the thinness of the soil, being stunted, and extending their roots horizontally along the surface of the ground. Originally St. Michael's, the principal of the group, and celebrated for its oranges, appears to have been covered with aromatic plants; it is now a series of hills and mountains, none of primitive origin, but of gradual volcanic productions. Earthquakes, sudden blasts and explosions were, in early times, frequent, while many extinguished volcanoes still exist, with others in subdued but active operation. The whole country is covered with lava, in some places appearing in craggy eminences and in others in a state of decomposition, forming a fertile and productive soil. Where the destructive agent ran without interruption, it filled up inequalities and formed a lovely champaign country; where it was impeded, it left islands and hillocks, which present the singular appearance of being covered with blooming vegetation, encompassed by mountains of volcanic ashes. How the ingenuity of man contrives to overcome these obstacles may be learned by giving some account of a residence and farm established by Mr. Reed, formerly British consul. A traveller having paid him a visit, admired his taste in selecting so delicious a spot, and was surprised to learn that it was the most barren place in the whole island, a mere surface of lava, but now diversified by shade and opening, level and raised ground, garden and pasture, vineyards and orange trees. How this miraculous change was brought about is thus simply explained by a process, which has changed the whole rugged superficies of lava round Ponta del Gada into improved land. We for the sake of brevity take Mr. Reed's plan. The farm he purchased for one dollar an acre, consisted of two regions: the fertile or decomposed lava, and the barren or vitreous and indurated lava. He commenced operations on the naked, rugged surface, and from some calcareous matter, blended with this mass of hard rock, provided himself with lime stone; and from the fragments of lava blasted from rocks, and dug from quarries, built his house. The decomposed land, yielding to the plow, was then sown with Indian corn, small beans and wheat; the solid lava, with oranges and vines.

The lava being somewhat cleared by the building materials, and the cavities filled up with the redundance of craggy eminences and vitreous and friable rubbish, the surface is marked out and holes perforated. Where the lava is shallow

and seated on a stratum of vegetable earth, the holes are made with the crow or pickaxe, and the plant is at once placed in a bed, where it can shoot up and extend its fibres. Where the lava is deep, the holes are blasted with powder, and the plant set in decomposed matter and decayed vegetable substances, the roots insinuating themselves into cracks and crevices. The oranges and vines flourish better in this manner than in deep, luxuriant soils, in which they are exposed to storms, whereas the natural parapet round the young plant shelters it, until it is able to bear the brunt of the weather. The roots, too, are screened from the violence of the sun, which is also unable to pierce their rocky covering, and imbibe the moisture. When once the lava is planted, there is no more labor, and one man can improve twenty acres, dressing the shoots, and renewing the waste of vegetable earth. The value of these plantations is immense, as single orange trees have been known to produce 40 and 60,000 oranges, more than thirty pounds in value.

Another remarkable feature in the curiosities of these islands is at Villa Franca, known as the Porto do Ilheo. In ancient times, there stood an island in the sea, about three quarters of a mile distant from the former harbor. In process of time, a vortex opened, which discharged dreadful torrents of lava, and showers of cinders and sand; by degrees the island rose to two thousand feet above the level of the sea, the conflagration excavating cavernous hollows, when suddenly, by the pressure of the waters on some weak point, the sea rushed in and extinguished the volcano. The introduction of the new element was attended with the most beneficial results. A sudden explosion took place, which rent asunder a side of the vortex, through which vessels of easy draught resort, both in case of distress and for the purpose of careening and refitting: it having often saved six vessels at a time from total loss. The greatest depth is eighteen feet and the shape circular. Very similar to the causes which produced the Porto do Ilheo, was a phenomenon which took place at the western end of the island, when public attention was called to the sea, from which a tremendous volume of smoke was seen to arise, though apparently thick and dense, to an extraordinary height. At intervals a dark muddy substance was heaved up to ten and sometimes to twenty fathoms. During the day no flame was visible, the awful contest between the elements struck the senses with wonder. The flame did not always ascend very high, perhaps not more than twenty feet, but at times the fire accompanied the smoke to a most prodigious height, carrying up substances resembling stone or metal. On the fifth day a tremendous explosion took place. The fire ascended like a host of sky-rockets, and the burning lava, that flew to a prodigious elevation, was not extinguished until it plunged again into the ocean. Previous to this occurrence there was eighty fathoms of water at the spot; there is now not as many feet, and an island will probably soon arise.

Leaving Villa Franca, and passing through much lovely scenery, over hills and through valleys, the traveller comes to the valley of the Furnas, covered by pebbles, which when held in the flame of a candle, emit a sulphurous smell, and a smoke of intolerable stench, losing while burning, in weight but not in bulk. Near at hand is a lake abounding in fish, particularly of gold and silver species. Passing over the baths and Red river, we come to the whirlpool, which is thus described by an anonymous traveller, and is one of the many wonders of the islands: "This phenomenon is not caused by an eddy, or counteraction of water in a deep river, but is wonderfully exhibited in the centre of a clear spring, wherein a muddy larvatic substance rises perpetually to the surface, and whirling round with a quick rotary motion, forms a vortex of such power, that it defies the resistance of any animal that falls within its action, and sucks down with rapidity and greediness everything which chance or curiosity places in its way. These objects never more appear; and where the object is purposely thrown in, and tied to a cord, the sensation is similar to that which is experienced by the mariner who sounds in a deep sea; the line flies from the hand, and the lead, while drawing up, appears of an enormous weight. An authentic story is current here respecting this wonderful vortex, which is a melancholy demonstration of the fatal powers it is known to possess. The spring is celebrated for water-cresses.——

(To be Concluded.)

Hudson's Bay Company.

From Travels in the Californias.

Their travelling is performed in various ways at different seasons of the year, and in different latitudes. In Oregon, their journies are chiefly made in Mackinaw boats and Indian canoes. With these they ascend and descend the various streams, bearing their cargoes, and often their boats, from the head-waters of one to those of another. In this manner they pass up the Cowelitz and descend the Chihilis with their furs and other goods; thus do they reach the head-waters of the northern fork of the Columbia, pass over the Rocky Mountains, and run down the rivers and lakes to Canada. Farther north on the east side of the Rocky Mountain range, they travel much on foot in summer, and in winter (which is there the greatest part of the year) on sledges drawn by dogs. Ten or twelve of these animals are attached to a light sledge, in which the man sits wrapped in furs and surrounded by meat for his carnivorous steeds and provisions for himself. Thus rigged, the train starts on the hard snow crust, and makes eighty or one hundred miles before the dogs tire. When the time for rest comes, they are unharnessed, fed, tied to the bushes or shrubs, and the traveller, enveloped in furs, addresses himself to sleep under the lea of a snow-bank or precipitous rock. When nature is recruited the train is again harnessed and put on route. The Aurora Borealis, which flames over the skies of those latitudes, illuminates the country so well, that the absence of the sun during the winter months offers no obstacles to these journeyings. Drawn by dogs over mountain and plain, under heavens filled with electric crackling light, the traveller feels that his situation harmonizes well with the sublime desolation of that wintry zone. In this manner these adventurous men travel from the mouth of Mackenzie's river to York on Hudson's Bay and to Canada.

Their dwellings are usually constructed of logs in the form of our frontier cabins. They are generally surrounded by pickets, and in other respects arranged so as to resist any attack which the neighboring savages may make upon them. They are usually manned by an officer of the Company and a few Canadian Frenchmen. In these rude castles, rising in the midst of the frozen north, live the active and fearless gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company. The frosts of the poles can neither freeze the blood nor the energy of men who spring from the little Island of Britain. The torrid, the temperate, and the frozen zones alike hear the language and acknowledge the power of that wonderful race.

The food of these traders is as rude as their mode of life. At most of the Forts they live almost exclusively on the white and other kinds of fish; no vegetables of any description are obtainable; an occasional deer or woods-buffalo or musk ox is procured; but seldom is their fare changed from the produce of the lakes and streams. At a few of their stations not even these can be had; and the company is obliged to supply them with pemican. This is buffalo meat dried, finely pulverized, mixed with fat and service berries, and secured in leathern sacks. They transport this from latitudes forty-eight and nine to different places on Mackenzie's river, and other parts of the extreme north. Wild fowls, geese and ducks afford another means of subsistence. At York and other posts in the neighborhood of lakes, large numbers of these fowl are taken in the summer season, and salted for winter use. But with all their painstaking, these gentlemen live but poorly; on a diet of flesh alone, and that of an indifferent quality. Hardy men are these lords of the snow. Their realm embraces one-ninth of the earth. This immense teritory Mr. Simpson informed us has a great variety of surface.

On the north-eastern portion lie extensive tracts of perpetually frozen mountains, cut by narrow valleys filled with fallen cliffs, among which dash and roar numerous rivers on their way to the frozen sea. Scarcely any timber or other vegetation grows in these wastes. A lonely evergreen or a stunted white birch takes root here and there, and during the few weeks of summer, mosses and linchens present a few verdant spots in the damp recesses of the rocks. But cold winds, laden with hail and sleet, howl over the budding of every green thing! The flowers can scarcely show their petals and set their seeds, before winter with its cracking ices and falling snow embraces them!

The section of conntry which lies about Mackenzie's river, differs from that

described, in having dense forests skirting portions of the valleys, and large plains of moss and linchen, on which feed the deer, buffalo, musk-ox and moose. The river itself is, in summer months, navigable for batteaux several hundred miles. It is well stored with trout, salmon, white and other fish. But the winters there also scarcely end, before they begin again their work of freezing land, st eam, and sea.

The extensive country lying on the head waters of the streams which run northward into the Frozen Ocean, eastward into Hudson's Bay, and southward into the Canadian waters, is composed of swamps, broken at intervals with piles of boulders and minor mountains, and dotted with clumps of bushes, plots of hassocks, and fields of wild rice. The waters of these table-lands form many lakes and lofty cascades on the way to their several destinations. The roar of these on the dreadful frozen barrenness around, Mr. Simpson represented to be awful in the extreme; so wild, hoarse, and ringing are their echoes. We are informed that there are considerable tracts of arable land on the western side of Hudson's Bay, occupied by several settlements of Scotch: that these people cultivate nothing but potatoes, oats, barley, and some few garden vegetables; and are altogether in a very undesirable condition. He also informed us of a tract of tillable land, lying some hundreds of miles northeast of Lake Superior, on which Lord Selkirk had founded a colony; that this settlement contains about three thousand people, composed chiefly of gentlemen and servants, who have retired from the Company's service with their Indian wives and half-breed children. They cultivate considerable tracts of land, have cattle and horses, schools and churches, a Catholic Bishop and a Protestant preacher of the English Church. Some years since a Mr. McLeod, from this settlement, went to Indiana and purchased a very large drove of sheep for its use. But in driving them a thousand miles over the prairies, their fleeces became so matted with poisonous burrs, that most of them died before reaching their place of destination.

Archdeacon Paley says truly, that "to send an uneducated child into the world, is little better than to turn a mad-dog, or a wild beast into the streets." Let all enjoy the blessings of practical education, which is the employment of theoretic knowledge, to train the mind to virtue, intelligence, and happiness.—SEL.

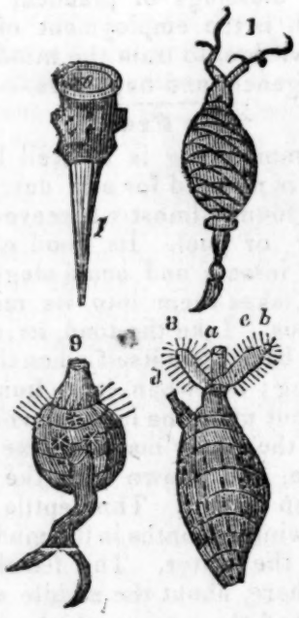
The Frog.

The common frog is so well known, that there is no need for any description of it. It is found almost whereever there is a river or pool. Its food consists chiefly of insects and small slugs; and the way it takes them into its mouth is very curious. Like the toad, its tongue is doubled back upon itself when the frog is not eating; but when it is hungry, it throws it out upon the insects, which are caught by the sticky matter at the tip of the tongue, and drawn into the frog's mouth in an instant. This reptile sleeps away the winter months in the mud at the bottom of the water. The female lays her eggs there, about the middle or end of March, and the young, which are called tadpoles, are hatched about the end of April, and feed upon the decayed weeds that float upon the water. They go through several changes of form and colour before they become perfect frogs, and venture to leave the water, and appear upon land.

The frog is a very harmless animal; and is indeed useful from its destroying a number of slugs and other insects, which would otherwise do great mischief to the plants and their flowers. It has many enemies, and is preyed upon by snakes, weasels, and other small animals.

I have read of one which was for sometime a constant visitor in the kitchen of a gentleman who lived on the banks of the river Thames. The servants made a pet of it and gave it food; and it soon became so tame, that it would come out from its hole under the kitchen wall every day during the servants' meals, to receive its food. It was very fond of warmth, and would bask upon the hearth in front of the kitchen fire every evening when the winter came on. There happened to be, at the same time, a favorite old cat in the family, and a sort of friendship sprung up between these two animals, the frog often nestling under the fur of the cat, whilst she seemed to watch over it and protect it from disturbance.

This frog continued to visit the gentleman's kitchen for three or four years, and was often seen by his family and friends lying at its ease before the fire.—SEL.



INFUSORIA.

Here are four specimens of those minute invisible animals, now more commonly called animalculæ, to which we have more than once invited the attention of our readers. To the wearisome, persevering and accurate attention of various scientific men we owe the information which our books contain, representing these wonderful products of creative power; and how impressive is the thought, that their countless millions, by which we are surrounded, and their various species, which exist in numbers still undetermined, have been unseen, and even unthought of, by the vast majority of the human race!

The fact that mankind were allowed to remain entirely ignorant, and unsuspicious of their existence, until within a few years, is easily accounted for when we reflect on the real unimportance of the discovery to the necessities of man. They can be used however, with great advantage, as subjects of attention and study, and are admirably adapted to cultivate that admiration of the divine architect of the Universe, to whom all his works should lead us.

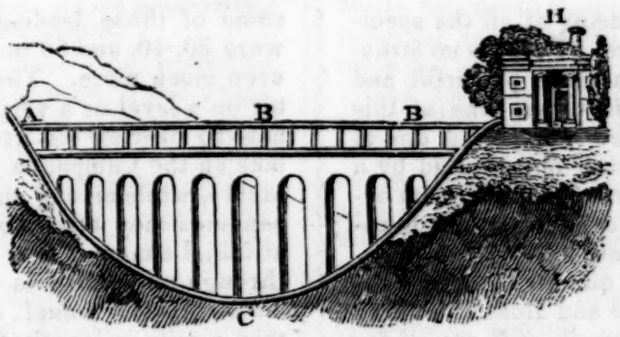
One of the lower figures, 8, presents one species or variety of Rotiferæ, or wheel-bearers, which are described on preceding pages.

Although the innumerable animalculæ resemble each other in one thing, their minute size, (so small that all except a very few are wholly invisible to the naked eye,) they differ in almost every other particular. It is natural to ignorance to presume that everything is simple which it does not understand: but, the farther we go in forming an acquaintance with the works of God, the greater reason do we find to admire their variety. Many writers have denominated these, and some of the other classes of animals "imperfect:" but we think that any one who ever reads the first chapter of Genesis, with becoming reverence, will hesitate before he follows their example. Even the animalculæ or infusoria were included among those things which God pronounced "very good.' When we perform the work allotted to us in the scale in creation, as well even as one of those microscopic animals, we may claim to have returned to our proper sphere.

It appears, from the observations of the curious, that there is almost, if not quite as great a diversity among the animalculæ or infusoria as among the beasts of the field, nay, as among all the five classes of visible animals, which we often regard as forming the entire kingdom of animated nature. Those above depicted exhibit several forms quite different from each other. Some of them are furnished with the ciliæ, or short hairy appendages, whose use it is often so difficult to discover. The notions, habits, food and internal structure are often as diverse as their forms.

DELAWARE BREAKWATER.—A correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot states that this work, which was commenced in 1829, has already so far advanced as to afford a safe anchorage for coasters, or for a few larger vessels in gales of wind. A part of this work has been brought up to its destined height (6 feet above the highest spring tides.) Its length is 200 feet, breadth at the top 22 feet, with a base of 53 feet. Another portion of the work, has been brought up to 3 feet above the water line, the length of this is 870 feet with a proportionate width; add to this a deposit of 600 feet brought up to different depths below low water line, and it gives the whole length of deposite 1670 feet, nearly one half the proposed length of the work, 3600 feet.

Another work has been commenced to protect vessels from floating ice, this work is to be 1500 feet long.



AN AQUEDUCT.

There is something naturally pleasing in an aqueduct. We can hardly look upon any new arrangement for the conducting of water from one place to another without feeling some degree of interest The amusement which boys find in constructing their rude and simple water-works of different kinds, shows that the operations of hydraulic powers have in their nature something which invites attention, and excites and gratifies curiosity.

When, for the first time, we contemplate a machine, ingeniously planned for some useful purpose, the gratication we receive is of a high and most decided kind, even at an advanced period of life; and it need not be wondered at, that travellers have always mentioned with pecular interest such ancient aqueducts as in some countries display the skill and science of nations long passed away. These are often among the monuments most intimately connected with exalted traits of national character and the most gratifying portions of their history. They are necessarily associated with the objects and the employments of peace, and indicative of science and refinement of manners, while they are usually models of taste and evidences of skill and industry.

The print above given, small and simple as it is, shows some of the chief principles embraced in an aqueduct of the most common kind. A narrow valley is crossed by a bridge, for the purpose of sustaining a channel for water, (A. B. B.) which it is desired to conduct from the top of one of its banks to the other. In some places a mound of earth or a solid wall of stone is raised: but, where the magnitude of the work is such as to render a saving of materials or labor important, or where it is necessary to secure passages for a running stream below, intervals must be left in the fabric. Questions then naturally arise, of what size, form and number those intervals shall be; and the answers must be obtained from men of science and taste.

Our print represents a row of arched openings, (C.) formed by piers of hewn stone, of equal size, and placed at such equal distances, as not to displease the eye. Good stone arches are as strong and lasting as solid walls, and often more so, partly because the weight of the fabric is much less. In such a construction as this, all the three advantages enumerated above are attained. Many aqueducts, of considerable size, and some of prodigious magnitude, are still to be seen in different parts of the old world, which have been built hundreds of years. Indeed many of them are the remains of Roman times, and nearly two thousand years old.

It is easy to perceive, that a fabric of such a form and size, even as that represented in our print, is well adapted to architectural embellishment. The general proportions being good, a little taste and ingenuity would render the whole a very beautiful object. The piers might be converted into columns of any Grecian style, by adding bases and capitals, and casing them with marble, ornamented by the chisel; and entablatures above might be enriched with appropriate carving and statues. Such graceful colonades the traveller finds spanning some of the gulphs and gorges of the mountainous regions of Europe and Asia, and stretching across the now deserted plains, once populous with powerful and refined nations. But the beauty of such a structure is sometimes greatly increased, by a happy adaptation of a tier or two of columns above the first. When this is done with strict regard to the old, established rules of taste, the aqueduct becomes one of the

finest and most pleasing of all the specimens of architecture. Perhaps no structure can produce a more powerful and gratifying single effect than one of this description; and, by comparing one of this complex kind with one formed by a single range of columns, an excellent opportunity is found to contrast the beautiful with the sublime.

Those who, like ourselves, have contemplated, at leisure and alone, the long lines of aqueducts which still extend for miles across portions of the desolate plain that surrounds Rome, will clearly realize the force of this remark.

Some aqueducts are subterranean; and then they lose the nature of such works as we have been considering, and become mere conduits, trenches or tunnels, buried or cut in darkness through the rocks or the earth. Many such there are, of both ancient and modern days. Nearly the whole of the greatest American Aqueducts are of this kind, though portions of them are of the other. We refer to the Aqueducts of Mexico and New York. The latter consists chiefly of a large tube of mason-work, of such size as to admit the passage of a boat loaded with men. But on the route of it is one of the finest aqueducts in our country, across Harlem river; and on the Erie Canal, at Rochester, the aqueduct of nine arches across the Genesee is an admirable structure. Such works, a few years ago, wholly unknown in the U. States, are now numerous and are rivalled, in size, beauty and utility by the viaducts of our railroads, which often resemble them in appearance.

Among the most celebrated aqueducts in Europe, is the Pont du Gard in Languedoc, supposed to have been erected by the Romans, to carry water into the city of Nismes. That of Constantinople is also a remarkable one, as was that near Petra, in Mingrelia, which is said by Procopius to have been built by Chosroes, King of Persia. This last had three conduits, one above the other; and in in this respect resembled one of those at Rome, which introduced into that city water from three celebrated fountains, some miles distant.

Some of the ancient aqueducts were paved with stone or brick, while others had tubes of baked clay. The Roman aqueducts, like most of their constructions, were chiefly formed of bricks; and some of those leading into the capital were 30, 40, and 60 miles in length, and even much more. They carried the water on a level or a very general descent, passing over all the irregularities of surface on the Campagna on long ranges of arches, while among the hills of the Appennines they often flowed through deep artificial channels, and sometimes passed through mountains in tunnels. Beyond Tivoli is the tunnel of Vicovar, more than a mile in length, four feet wide and about five in depth. In some of these ancient works are evidences of the wise precautions taken by their makers; as vents formed at intervals, by which the water might flow off when accidentally obstructed. The aqueduct called Aqua Martia was 70 feet high, made of three kinds of stone, and had two canals, one above the other. Through the lower poured the water of the Teverone, and through the upper that of the Anio Novus. The most beautiful of the aqueducts of Rome, according to Pliny, was that of the Claudian water. It was 40 miles long, cost above a million of crowns, and was so lofty, that it supplied all the hills of the city. It was begun by the Emperor Caligula, and completed by Claudius, and repaired by several of their successors. It remains to the present day, and bears the name of Aqua Felice.

DROPS–The ocean is composed of drops. Small in themselves, but united they cover two-thirds of the globe, and bear on their bosom treasures untold. Despise not small things. A word alone may mean nothing and effect nothing; but a union of words carries joy or grief to a thousand bosoms. So small a word as we—a little word only—might remain glued to the tongue through life and produce no good effect. But unite it to a few more words, such as, 'will do good,' and suiting the action to the words, what may it not produce? Ten thousand hearts may leap with joy at the sound. Precious drops to millions! Are there hearts full of pain and sorrow? Speak—we will do them good—tears give place to smiles—pain departs at the sight of joy, and a world of happiness is born in a day. Precious drops! we repeat. Cherish and scatter them. Like the dew that refreshes the flowers, they will be drawn to heaven by the Sun of righteousness, to be exhibited at the last day.–SEL.

The New Town of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

This is a busy place—what a change at present in its appearance in one single year! Previous to June, last year, there were scarcely any buildings erected, except the Essexs Co.'s boarding house, on the west side of the Turnpike road leading from the Andover bridge to Methuen village.

The beginning of June, a year ago, witnessed the raising of the first frame for a two story building on Common street, since which, probably four hundred buildings have been erected for various purposes, and many are daily progressing.

When approaching the place from the Andover side, on the main road or street, which is very even and broad, and where a few buildings are erected on each side for workshops and stores, the first sight that strikes one is the many heavy four-horse teams, some empty, some loaded with large stones.

When crossing the bridge, on the west side is the dam across the Merrimac river. It was commenced in August '45, is from 26 to 40 feet high, varying with the bed of the river, length 900 ft., is 36 feet thick at the bottom, and will be 12 feet at the top, and gives a fall of water of about 25 feet.

On the westerly line up the river, on the north side, are seen a multitude of shantees, which denote the presence of the hard working sons of 'Sweet Ireland,' which make themselves easily known by their peculiar style of architecture, and whose inmates are seen in every direction, digging, hauling, carrying brick, hods, &c., to perhaps 1000 in number; and on the west side of the turnpike to Methuen village, due north a quarter of a mile, are seen the Essex Co.'s temporary workshops, and fine looking two story boarding houses of wood, and carpenters' shops, with high chimnies, for planing and sawing, belonging to private individuals—these are carried by steam.

The canal commences at the northerly end of the dam, by a semi-circular form, where in a parallel line north from its beginning, about one hundred yards, the guard locks are constructing, which, like the dam, rest on solid rock; it then continues east, following the bend of the river, about 400 feet wide at its upper end, 60 feet at its lower end, and 12 feet deep to its termination, where other guard-locks are constructing: this will also receive the water in the fall.

The Atlantic Cotton Mills commence about 1000 feet east from the bridge, and stretch down the river 1500 feet, one-half of which, a river wall, is completed; part of the foundation and wheel-pit of their first mill is done. Abreast of the mills, on the northerly side of the canal, are built three fine looking brick blocks of boarding houses.

This Company has a charter of two millions of dollars, and will erect four mills of two hundred feet long, four stories high, for the manufacture of cottons; and judging from what is done, its getter-up the worthy and Hon. Abbott Lawrence, is a good guaranty that nothing from his side will be omitted to make it so.

The works of the Bay State Mills commence at the easterly end of the Atlantic Mills, and continue down the river one thousand feet, on the whole length of which has been completed a most substantial and beautiful river wall, which, when that for the Atlantic Mills is completed, will as a whole, for one half, present to the beholder on the opposite shore, a solid smooth stone wall, not excelled by any in this country.

This Company's works require more than a passing notice; their magnitude and solidity make them decidedly the greatest work of the kind in America. The whole length of the river wall will be covered with one entire building, 3 stories high, with its gable ends facing the river and yard. Two wings leading north from the ends of this building about 280 feet, also 3 stories high—except the last 80 feet of 2 stories—will make one solid brick wall, towards one-third of a mile in length, to be used for all necessary purposes, connected with the mills.

In a parallel line with the termination of these wings, is seen the foundation of the first and easterly mill, and excavations of the centre mill, of a prodigious size—and near the canal, parallel with the same is the foundation laid and laying for storehouses, offices, &c.

The brick masons are now laying the basement story of the first mill, 200 feet long, 6 stories high from the basement. It is intended to be filled with machinery, and running before the end of the year. Abreast of the mill, and in a continued

line of the Atlantic boarding houses are seen those of this Company.

The water from the canal is to be conducted through iron pipes into the drains, and the gates are constructed, to admit it at intervals during the day, to carry off all impurities from the substantial, conveniently built and handsome boarding houses, which will be running into these. It is praiseworthy of the manager and constructor thus to consider the health and comfort of the occupants, which will go far to insure a salubrious air in that part of the town. Between these are built six wells, of bricks and and cement, to supply the houses; and their contents are of good quality.

The company will erect three large mills, 300 feet long, six stories high, for the manufactnre of woolens, broadcloths and cassimeres, which will be a substantial and no doubt well arranged establishment.

A short distance from these works, in a north-easterly direction, is the Essex Company's Foundry and Machine Shop. The Foundry is a stone building, 150 ft. long, 86 feet wide, two large stories high, with erect standing ventilating windows on top, with coverings, to open at will inside; it is a very fine looking building, has for several weeks past been in operation, and does considerable business. Near by, west of the same, is building a large Machine Shop, also of stone; it is to be 400 feet long, 60 feet wide, and five stories high, and when completed will make a grand appearance. In a northwesterly direction, near by the structures are the boarding houses now building for the same; fifty tenements.

Besides these large works, many private dwellings, shops and stores are in the process of building, mostly of wood. Excavation has commenced on the Bank building, on the corner of Lawrence and Essex streets. This Bank will be in operation in October. A large three story building of elegant appearance, for a Hotel, is now receiving its roof.

The location of this town, in the vicinity of several flourishing villages, with spacious streets forty to eighty feet wide, nicely graded, the many substantial drains, crossing each other, all which works are done by the Essex Company, and its sloping down to the river will make it a pleasant and healthy place of residence. Here are published three newspapers, and already are seen many stores of all kinds of merchandize—shops of a multitude of mechanics, offices of physicians and lawyers, about one dozen of each, temperance and benovolent societies, a number of religious societies, worshipping in temporary small chapels.

One of the most agreeable places of residence, is on the beautiful hill, on the east side beyond Spiket river, a little stream that empties into the Merrimack river, east of the foundry—and there are already erected two substantial and neat dwelling houses, belonging to the gentlemanly Mr. Storrow, Agent, and Mr. Cabot, Clerk of the Essex Company. From that eminence most of the town is visible and makes quite a charming and animated appearance.

A public square comprising 17 1-2 acres has been laid out near the river. This open space does much credit to the Essex Company, and speaks volumes for their good sense and liberality; and the grading of the streets, the many drains laid, and various other matters show plainly that health and comfort, combined with taste, have been consulted.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the scene has truly changed in one year, from almost perfectly quiet fields, to a busy, active town, and is an instance of what can be accomplished, when science, skill, enterprise and wealth are combied.—*New Bedford Mercury.*

THE BEAUTIES OF CRYSTALIZATION.—Dissolve alum in boiling water until no more can be dissolved in it.—Then place it in a wire frame in the form of a basket. Next day the wire will be covered with beautiful crystals. Care should be taken however that the solution be not shaken in cooling, or the crystals will be small and rough.

If Tumeric be added to the hot solution of Alum the crystals will be all yellow; litmus will color them red; logwood will yield purple, and common writing ink, black; and the more muddy the solution, the finer will be the crystals.

To keep colored alum crystals from breaking, or losing their color, place them under a glass shade, with a saucer of water; this will preserve the atmosphere moist, and prevent the crystals getting too dry.—SEL.

There is a science of legislation, which the details of office, and the intrigues of popular assemblies never communicate.

PARENTS' DEPARTMENT.

Who will show us how to bring up our children better.—Is there nobody in our whole country who can tell us how to educate our children better than they are likely to be educated? Can no one inform us by what means we may prevent them from falling into the evils from which we have suffered, and others which we fear? Can we not by any means fortify them against the attacks of bad principles in manners, politics, and religion? Cannot somebody, in some of our states, or territories, inform us of some important science, hitherto unknown or underrated, which we might at once bring into practical application, in our schools or families, or both, with solid, extensive and lasting benefit?

Have we not reason to presume that such a discovery may be made, and that when known, it will receive the attention of our country? Need we presume that, the progress of improvement must necessarily be slow? That is the discouraging doctrine of many even of the friends of improvement, and may have been a reason why, in many cases, there has been no real progress at all. Improvements in the modes of transportation have not been slow, nor in many other things which we know; and there is room to presume, that, when once commenced, a change like that we desire to see, might be sudden and general.

How long would it take, if the parents and teachers, or even teachers alone, were desirous of returning to the old principles of their ancestors, and the methods most approved by good judges and most accordant with common sense, to make their children daily use the Bible, to govern them by its rules in an affectionate but firm manner, to incite them to improvement by an example of ardor for learning, by rising above the trifles by which we are all more or less engrossed, and showing that we are indeed, what all always claim to be, real friends of our children and our country?

The improvements we want will never come of themselves, legislatures will never give them to us, school-funds or literature-banks can never produce them. We must set ourselves to work, and then we shall have them, and never before. Each of us must help—not by giving a vote, or attending a meeting, or writing an essay, or making a speech: but by frequent and ardent labours at home and abroad.

Every person may learn something every day.—We all wish to know more; and, if we attend to our own feelings, we shall perceive that this is true: each of us has a love of knowledge, given us by God. Many, however, have almost lost this desire, or at least have almost ceased trying to learn, because they either think they have not the necessary means or opportunity, or because they suppose themselves unable to learn if they had them.

Now one of the most unfortunate things is for a person to believe that he has not enough strength of mind to obtain useful knowledge. Such a belief will discourage him, and prevent him from making exertion; and then, because he does know as much as others, he will believe, more deeply than before, that he never can. We are convinced, by the observation of years, that one of the principal causes of the common want of knowledge among our countrymen, and countrywomen too, is the idea that there are only a few persons endowed by nature with good minds, and that they themselves are not of that number. Many men are apt to think humbly of themselves; and this is a mark of becoming modesty in certain cases. It is right and proper that we all should suspect ourselves of evil inclinations, admit that we are ignorant of much that we ought to know, and liable to mistakes in judgment, as well as in facts. We should also, on the principle of Christian humility, be always ready, on such points, to esteem others better than ourselves. When we come, however, to estimate the powers of our minds, the question is changed: we are on different ground. We should not regard it as an act of humility to suspect, without reason, that our Maker has made us less able than others to understand the beauties and designs of his wonderful works of creation; to learn the nature or uses of the things he has made, or to acquire from the writings of men an acquaintance with their actions or opinions.

It would be wrong for us thus unreasonably to decide against our own ability: for then we should at once place limits to our duty. It is our duty to acquire as much useful knowledge as we

can; and we ought never to stop learning until we are unable to learn more. But if we think we have not minds qualified to acquire any particular kind of knowledge, we shall conclude that it is not our duty to obtain it, and thus set a limit to our duties, and perhaps deny and neglect some very important one.

It is an excellent rule, therefore, to be adopted and practised through life; and we recommend it especially to every young person: Believe that you can learn everything, and try every day to add to your stock of useful knowledge.

Do not think your mind weak on any subject, until you have faithfully studied it, and proved your inability by long and most decisive experiments. Many mechanics enjoy peculiar advantages for extending their knowledge; by peculiar, we mean greater than persons of other professions. This we are prepared to show, and shall endeavor to show, at some length, in some of our future numbers. In the meantime, we would urgently request our readers, especially young mechanics, to give the preceding suggestions on attentive consideration.

THE END OF EDUCATION.—The multitude think, that to educate a child, is to crowd into its mind a given amount of knowledge; to teach the mechanism of reading and writing; to load the memory with words; to prepare a boy for the routine of trade. No wonder, then, that they think everybody fit to teach. The true end of education is to unfold and direct aright our whole nature. Its office is to call forth powers of thought, affection, will, and outward actions; power to observe, to reason, to judge, to contrive; power to adopt good courses, and to pursue them efficiently; power to govern ourselves, and to influence others; power to gain and to spread happiness. Reading is but an instrument—education is to teach its best use. The intellect was created not to receive passively a few words, dates and facts; but to be active for the acquisition of truth. Accordingly education should inspire a profound love of truth, and teach the processes of investigation. A sound logic, by which we mean the science or art which instructs us in the laws of reasoning and evidence, in the true method of inquiry and the sources of false judgment, is an essential part of a good education. —*Channing.*

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

Process of making Sugar.—The time at which we commence making sugar is about the first of November, when the cane has reached that state which yields more and sweeter juice than can be obtained at any other time of the year.

Three days before the commencement of grinding, all hands are occupied in cutting and bringing to the mill, a sufficient quantity of cane to keep it going. Fifteen days afterwards, half the hands leave the field to be occupied in different places about the sugar house. The quantity of cane brought to the mill, before grinding commences, covers all the space before the house, in every direction.

The machinery is set at work, and then commences the period which negroes enjoy above all other months in the year, notwithstanding it requires much more labor. The machinery by which cane is ground, consists of one large cylinder which turns two adjoining ones by means of cog-wheels. These three wheels therefore turn into each other, so that the cane is taken in and passed out on the opposite side, so completely mashed that I have known it take fire when a candle has been applied to it.

The juice runs down into a large flat trough, whence it is conducted by smaller ones to large boxes, ten feet square. When these are all filled, a pint of oyster-shell lime is put into each box. This juice is then conducted through a large wall into the kettles, which are five in number, placed side by side in a straight line. One fire heats them all, by means of a flue which passes under them. The fire is then kindled, and when the kettles begin to boil, the juice is thrown from one kettle to another by means of a large bucket fixed on a pole.

The battery, which is the last kettle in the row, is the one in which the sugar is formed. The time, when it is thrown from this kettle into the coolers, is indicated by dipping from it a large spoonful, down the sides of which, the grain is seen running. After it has become cool, it is put into hogsheads with little holes at the bottom, through which the molasses runs upon an inclined floor, on which the hogsheads stand. After the molasses is drained from the hogsheads, they are headed up and sold.—*Irving Banner.*

The Stubborn Child.

A little girl was at the breakfast table one morning, and wanted some molasses on her pudding. She had often been told that she must not help herself to it, but yet chose to disobey, and took the spoon for that purpose. Her father told her to put it down; and said:

"Shall I help you, my daughter?"

She was angry, and made no answer.

"You must not have any," said her father, "until you ask me for it."

The little girl then felt so much displeased, that she sat still, and would not speak. Her parents and little sister and brother went on eating their breakfast, and talking very kindly about different things.

At last the little girl said, "Mother, may I have some molasses?" No, said her mother: "your father said you must ask him." She then sat still sometime longer: for she was so unwilling to yield or submit, that she chose to be cross and to let the pudding be almost all eaten up, rather than do what she at first determined not to do.

At last she found the rest of the family had almost done their breakfast, and would soon leave the table. She therefore thought it best to do as she had been told. She also saw, that she had been very foolish to disobey so long. So she said:

"Father, will you please to give me some molasses on my pudding?"

"Yes," said he; and he gave her some. When she had begun to eat it, he said, "Now, my daughter you have been stubborn. You felt unwilling to mind me, though you knew I told you to do what was right. Now what have you gained by it? You have felt cross and unhappy, while we have all been talking pleasantly together; and you have set without eating, while we have been taking our breakfast.

"You disliked so much to yield, you was so stubborn, that you tried to get what you wanted without minding me, and asked your mother. But you could not get it, and after all had to obey. Certainly you have got nothing good by it. You held out about ten minutes. Some people hold out longer, and some shorter. There was a young man once, who held out three years, he was so stubborn. He chose to have his own way, and because his mother wished him to do right, and obey her, he left home, and staid away three years He had a great many troubles and difficulties, and saw many things such as we all want to see: but they did not make him happy, and at last he became so poor and unhappy, that he thought he had better go home.

Do you know why he had such troubles? It was because God was kind. He wanted to show him that he was wrong, and could not be happy, while breaking his laws.

AGRICULTURAL.

The Fork, vs. the Spade.—As digging and stirring the soil is the most laborious and most indispensable operation in horticulture, (says a correspondent of the Gardener's Chronicle,) it is highly important to inquire by what tool digging is best accomplished. The spade is almost universally used—so much so indeed that the fork has generally a specific name, as though it were only fit for one department of labor. It is generally called the "potato fork," because it is employed in unearthing that root, and in many gardens that is its sole occupation. Much has been said at various times on the superiority of the fork to the spade for general purposes, but the advice is seldom followed. The spade has always been used on my own premises until the last winter, and no man who has worked for me has ever said—"Sir, will it not be better to use a fork?" But having occasion to dig myself last autumn, I used the fork, and was so amazed at the ease and rapidity with which the work was done, that I have never since allowed a spade to be used when the former instrument is available. A moment's thought will point out in what the superiority consists. The friction is only one-half that produced by the spade, and stones present comparatively no obstacle. A sandy soil, of course, could not be worked by the fork, but light grounds may. Another advantage is the lightness communicated to the soil when it is forked up. The fork, indeed, gives the land a subsoil ploughing, if the prongs are long enough. Let the amateur make the experiment himself, and I am sure he will seldom afterwards use the spade.

More than $2,000,000 worth of madder is annually imported into this country, when it can be as well cultivated here.

POETRY.

A Poor Man's Sabbath.

Let's go, wife, to the woods and fields,
This sunny sabbath morn,
The fresh and balmy breeze shall cheer
Our spirits sad and worn;
I long to quit the dusty town,
For nature's bloom and light,
To go amid her rural scenes,
And feed my yearning sight.

I pine to see the woods and dells,
To thread the quiet lane,
And view the fields on either side,
Where nods the yellow grain;
To list the blythe and joyous lark
Pour forth his grateful lay;
And taste the sweet and fragrant smell,
That comes from new mown hay.

We'll rest upon the fresh green grass,
And watch the streamlet's flow,
Whose depths reflect the herbs and flowers,
That on its margin grow.
All lovely sounds that fill the air—
All things that court the sight,
Shall shed a balm upon our souls,
And minister delight.

Our heavy woes, and fev'rish cares,
No more shall gall our peace;
Our hate and rancor 'gainst the proud
And pamper'd rich, shall cease.
No malice there shall fill our hearts,
Their chords shall beat to love;
And for this fair and hallow'd day,
We'll thank our God above.—SEL.

Who made that Little Flower?

The Atheist in his garden stood,
"At twilight's pensive hour,"
His little daughter, by his side,
Was gazing on a flower.

"O, pick that blossom, Pa, for me,"
The little prattler said,
"It is the fairest one that blooms,
Within that lowly bed."

The father plucked the chosen flower,
And gave it to his child;—
With parted lips, and sparkling eye,
She seized the gift—and smiled.

"O, Pa—who made this pretty flower,
This little violet blue;
Who gave it such a fragrant smell,
And such a lovely hue?"

A change came o'er the father's brow,
His eye grew strangely wild,
New thoughts within him had been stirr'd
By that sweet, artless child.

The truth flashed on the father's mind,
The truth in all its power;
"There is a God—my child, he said,
He made that little flower."

[*Student and Young Tutor.*

ENIGMA—No. 50.

West India Islands Enigmatically expressed.

1. A young animal, and a vowel.
2. Food for cattle, and two-thirds of an oar.
3. An insect, a personal pronoun, and part of manure.
4. The cry of an animal, an interjection, and a mother.
5. A bird, a vowel, and half the support of man.

MARTIN F. TUTUILER, JR.

When Pizarro, who had been a hog-herd, had conquered Peru, and had its emperor in his power, he cruelly murdered him because he had expressed a feeling of contempt at his [Pizarro's] ignorance of the arts of reading and writing.—SEL.

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